

House Resolution 1100

By: Representatives Holt of the 112th, Brooks of the 63rd, Williams of the 165th, and Abdul-Salaam of the 74th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Walter Curtis Butler, Jr.; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Morgan County and the State of Georgia mourn the passing of the dedicated
3 public servant and community leader, Mr. Walter Curtis Butler, Jr., on August 1, 2008; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Butler was born on December 12, 1943, in Morgan County, Georgia,
5 beloved son of the late Hattie Mae Mitchell Butler and Walter Curtis Butler, Sr.; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Butler graduated as salutatorian from Pearl High School in 1962 and was
7 known throughout his community for his leadership skills and desire to do what was best for
8 Morgan County; and

9 WHEREAS, 30 years ago, Mr. Butler led a successful effort to change the manner in which
10 Morgan County officials were elected, resulting in the creation of new districts that gave
11 local voters more direct representation and freedom in electing their own leadership; and

12 WHEREAS, seeing a need for direction and change in Morgan County, Mr. Butler ran for
13 County Commissioner and became the first African American elected to county office in
14 Morgan County; and

15 WHEREAS, after Mr. Butler's election he continued to serve the people of Morgan County
16 as their Commissioner for 27 years until he passed away; and

17 WHEREAS, this driven man was also instrumental in the founding of the Morgan County
18 Branch of the NAACP in 1969, serving in numerous leadership roles throughout the years,
19 including a decade as president; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Butler gave generously of his time to many important civic organizations,
21 such as the ACCG's Black Caucus, the Morgan County Democratic Party, the Democratic

22 Party of Georgia, the Morgan County Hospital Authority, the Morgan County Civic League,
23 and Action, Inc.; and

24 WHEREAS, a man of great faith and devotion, Mr. Butler was an active member of Mt.
25 Zion Baptist Church, where he served as Chairman of the Board of Deacons, Treasurer of
26 Mt. Zion's Building Fund, assistant Sunday School Superintendent, and was a member of the
27 Trustee Board and the Senior Choir; and

28 WHEREAS, Mr. Butler was united in love and marriage to Laura B. Wilson on June 2, 1967,
29 and the two were blessed with three loving and devoted children, LaVelle, Celeste, and
30 Walter Curtis Butler III; and

31 WHEREAS, a great source of pride and joy, Mr. Butler also had five grandsons: Terry
32 Lemon, Jr., Michael Evans, Christopher Evans, Caleb Emanuel Sims, and Jaden Butler; and

33 WHEREAS, all who were privileged to know this distinguished Georgian join his family in
34 mourning his loss.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
36 this body hereby joins in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Walter Curtis Butler, Jr., and
37 expressing its appreciation of his many contributions to his community and the State of
38 Georgia.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Butler's family.